1	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA		
2	SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION		
3	INTER CHARGO OF AMERICA		
4	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,		
5	PLAINTIFF, CASE NO. CR-16-00166-RS		
6	VS. SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA		
7	ISLAM SAID NATSHEH, DECEMBER 13, 2016		
8	DEFENDANT. PAGES 1 - 39		
9			
10	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS		
11	BEFORE THE HONORABLE RICHARD SEEBORG UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE		
12			
13	A-P-P-E-A-R-A-N-C-E-S		
14	FOR THE PLAINTIFF: OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY		
15	BY: ELISE BECKER 450 GOLDEN GATE AVENUE, 11TH FLOOR		
16	SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94102		
17	FOR THE DEFENDANT: OFFICE OF THE FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER		
18	BY: CANDIS LEA MITCHELL 459 GOLDEN GATE AVENUE, ROOM 19-6884		
19	SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94102		
20	U.S. PROBATION: JILL SPITALIERI		
21	OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER: IRENE L. RODRIGUEZ, CSR, RMR, CRR CERTIFICATE NUMBER 8074		
22			
23	PROCEEDINGS RECORDED BY MECHANICAL STENOGRAPHY, TRANSCRIPT PRODUCED WITH COMPUTER.		
24			
25			

	1	SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA	DECEMBER 13, 2016
	2	PROCE	CEDINGS
02:55PM	3	(COURT CONVENED AT 2:55 I	P.M.8)
02:55PM	4	THE CLERK: CALLING	CASE CR-16-166, UNITED STATES
02:55PM	5	VERSUS ISLAM SAID NATSHEH.	
02:55PM	6	MS. BECKER: ELISE	BECKER FOR THE GOVERNMENT. GOOD
02:55PM	7	AFTERNOON, YOUR HONOR.	
02:55PM	8	THE COURT: GOOD AF	TERNOON, MS. BECKER.
02:55PM	9	MS. MITCHELL: GOOD	AFTERNOON, YOUR HONOR.
02:55PM	10	CANDICE MITCHELL FROM THE FEDE	CRAL PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE ON
02:56PM	11	BEHALF OF MR. NATSHEH WHO IS E	PRESENT BEFORE THE COURT.
02:56PM	12	THE COURT: GOOD AF	TERNOON. THIS IS THE TIME AND
02:56PM	13	DATE SET FOR SENTENCING IN THI	IS MATTER.
02:56PM	14	HAVE COUNSEL HAD THE OPPO	RTUNITY TO REVIEW THE PRESENTENCE
02:56PM	15	REPORT?	
02:56PM	16	MS. BECKER: YES, Y	OUR HONOR.
02:56PM	17	THE COURT: AND, MS	. MITCHELL, HAVE YOU HAD THE
02:56PM	18	OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS IT WITH	MR. NATSHEH?
02:56PM	19	MS. MITCHELL: YES,	YOUR HONOR.
02:56PM	20	THE COURT: THERE W.	AS ONE OBJECTION THAT WAS NOTED
02:56PM	21	IN THE PRESENTENCE REPORT TO C	CERTAIN LANGUAGE THAT HAD BEEN
02:56PM	22	ASCRIBED TO THE DEFENDANT. TH	HAT APPEARED TO BE THE ONLY ISSUE.
02:56PM	23	IS THAT THE ONLY ISSUE TH	HAT IS REQUIRING RESOLUTION?
02:56PM	24	MS. MITCHELL: YES,	YOUR HONOR.
02:56PM	25	THE COURT: OKAY.	I DID REVIEW THE OBJECTION, AND I

REVIEWED THE PROBATION OFFICER'S RESPONSE. 1 02:56PM ANYTHING FURTHER YOU WANT TO SAY? 2 02:56PM MS. MITCHELL: NO, YOUR HONOR. 3 02:56PM THE COURT: ALL RIGHT. I HAVE REVIEWED IT. I THINK 02:56PM 4 THOSE STATEMENTS ARE SET FORTH BY WAY OF BACKGROUND 02:56PM INFORMATION, AND SO I WILL OVERRULE THE OBJECTION. 02:56PM I -- JUST SO IT'S CLEAR, I HAVE REVIEWED THE PRESENTENCE 02:56PM 7 REPORT, AND I REVIEWED THE OPEN PLEA APPLICATION, AND I'VE 8 02:57PM REVIEWED THE GOVERNMENT'S SENTENCING MEMORANDUM THAT INCLUDES 02:57PM 9 02:57PM 10 SOME MATERIAL FROM THE CASE IN THE DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA WHICH HAS SOME COMPARABLES AND THEN ALSO THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLY 02:57PM 11 02:57PM 12 BRIEF, I REVIEWED THE DEFENDANT'S MEMORANDUM, INCLUDING LETTERS 02:57PM 13 FROM MR. NATSHEH'S YOUNGER SISTER, FATHER, FRIENDS, COWORKER, 02:57PM 14 CLERICAL INDIVIDUAL, AND AUNT AND UNCLE. 02:57PM 15 OUR STARTING POINT IS ALWAYS THE ADVISORY SENTENCING GUIDELINES WHICH AS A RESULT OF THE TERRORIST ENHANCEMENT 02:57PM 16 17 RESULTS IN A GUIDELINE CALCULATION AS I THINK IS CORRECTLY SET 02:57PM 02:57PM 18 FORTH IN THE PRESENTENCE REPORT OF A TOTAL OFFENSE LEVEL OF 37 AND A CRIMINAL HISTORY CATEGORY OF 6, AND THAT'S THE RESULT OF 02:57PM 19 02:57PM 20 THE ENHANCEMENT BECAUSE OTHERWISE THERE'S NO CRIMINAL HISTORY. 02:57PM 21 THAT WOULD YIELD AN ADVISORY SENTENCING GUIDELINE RANGE 02:57PM 22 OF 360 MONTHS TO LIFE. THE STATUTORY MAXIMUM UNDER THE 02:58PM 23 STATUTE, AS I UNDERSTAND IT, IS ON THE ONE COUNT INFORMATION THAT IS INVOLVED HERE IS A 20-YEAR MAXIMUM. SO THAT IS THE 02:58PM 24 02:58PM 25 MAXIMUM PENALTY THAT COULD BE IMPOSED IN THIS INSTANCE.

THE PROBATION DEPARTMENT IN THEIR REPORT RECOMMENDS THE 1 02:58PM 2 STATUTORY MAXIMUM. THE GOVERNMENT RECOMMENDS A DOWNWARD 02:58PM VARIANCE TO 15 YEARS WITH A 15-YEAR TERM OF SUPERVISED RELEASE, 3 02:58PM AND THE DEFENSE IS ARGUING FOR A SENTENCE OF 48 MONTHS INVOKING 02:58PM 4 A CASE THAT THEY POINT ME TO IS A COMPARABLE. 02:58PM MS. BECKER? 02:58PM MS. BECKER: YOUR HONOR, THE GOVERNMENT HAS MADE A 02:58PM 7 RECOMMENDATION THAT IS SLIGHTLY BELOW THE STATUTORY MAXIMUM FOR 8 02:58PM 02:58PM 9 SEVERAL REASONS. 02:58PM 10 OBVIOUSLY, AS THE COURT HAS INDICATED, THE STARTING POINT IS ALMOST A NONSTARTER BECAUSE THE GUIDELINES ARE ABOVE THE 02:58PM 11 02:58PM 12 STATUTORY MAXIMUM, BUT IF WE WERE TO LOOK AT THE CASE AND AS WE 02:58PM 13 MUST AS A 20-YEAR CEILING TO IT, THE QUESTION IS WHERE DOES THE 02:59PM 14 CASE FALL WITHIN THAT RANGE? 02:59PM 15 THE GOVERNMENT HAS PROVIDED SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION TO THE COURT RELATING TO CASES ACROSS THE NATION. OBVIOUSLY THE 02:59PM 16 17 FACTS ARE ALWAYS A LITTLE BIT DIFFERENT. SOME INVOLVE MORE 02:59PM 18 PREPARATION FOR COMBAT OR FOR TRAVEL OR FOR FUNDING. 02:59PM THE COURT: WELL, ISN'T IT FAIR TO SAY THAT THIS ONE 02:59PM 19 02:59PM 20 INVOLVES THE LOWEST END OF ALL OF THOSE FACTORS? THIS INVOLVES 02:59PM 21 NO RECRUITMENT, NO MONEY BEING ADVANCED, NO VIOLENCE, NO ACTIVITY BEYOND POST DATES, WHICH ARE OFFENSIVE NO DOUBT ABOUT 02:59PM 22 02:59PM 23 IT, AND THEN APPREHENSION AT THE AIRPORT. 02:59PM 24 HE'S VERY FORTUNATE HE WAS APPREHENDED BECAUSE WE WILL 02:59PM 25 NEVER KNOW WHAT MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED AND PART OF YOUR ARGUMENT,

1 02:59PM 2 02:59PM 3 02:59PM 02:59PM 4 03:00PM 03:00PM 03:00PM 7 03:00PM 8 03:00PM 9 03:00PM 10 03:00PM 11 03:00PM 12 03:00PM 13 03:00PM 14 03:00PM 15 03:00PM 16 03:00PM 17 03:00PM 18 03:00PM 19 03:00PM 20 03:00PM 21 03:00PM 22 03:00PM 23 03:00PM 24 03:01PM 25

WHICH I THINK IS A FAIR ONE, IS THAT HAD MR. NATSHEH MADE IT TO SYRIA AND THEN FURTHER RADICALIZED AND BEING A CITIZEN AND COME BACK, WE DON'T KNOW WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED. HE MIGHT HAVE BECOME DISSOLUTIONED.

HOWEVER, HE ALSO MIGHT HAVE COME BACK AND BECOME A DANGER TO THE UNITED STATES. SO I UNDERSTAND THE ARGUMENT.

BUT IN TERMS OF LOOKING AT ALL THE COMPARABLES, I DON'T -YOU POINT OUT THESE COMPARABLES HAVE DIFFERENT FACTORS. I
THINK THIS ONE HAS ZERO FACTORS BEYOND THE ABSOLUTE MOST BASIC
UNLESS I MISREAD.

MS. BECKER: YOUR HONOR, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD RESPECTFULLY SUBMIT THAT THERE ARE OTHER FACTORS AT PLAY HERE AND THAT HE DOES NOT POSE SERIOUS THREAT ON ANY OF THOSE GROUNDS.

SO WHILE THE GOVERNMENT HAS NOT PRESENTED ANY EVIDENCE TO THE COURT THAT HE WAS OBTAINING MILITARY TRAINING IN THE UNITED STATES, THAT HE HAD ATTEMPTED TO PURCHASE ANY WEAPONS HERE, AS THE PSR REFLECTS, THERE WAS SOME DISCUSSION ABOUT WHETHER OR NOT AN ACT SHOULD BE COMMITTED IN THE UNITED STATES AND IN ADDITION THERE WAS --

THE COURT: I'M NOT -- I UNDERSTAND THAT, BUT I

GUESS MY POINT WAS THAT WHEN I'M LOOKING AT THE COMPARABLES

THAT BOTH SIDES ARE POINTING ME TO, IT APPEARS FROM THE

SPECTRUM OF ACTIVITY THAT IN THE WORLD OF AN EFFORT TO JOIN A

TERRORIST ORGANIZATION OR PARTICIPATE WITH A TERRORIST

ORGANIZATION, THIS APPEARS TO BE ON ONE END OF THE SPECTRUM 1 03:01PM THAT BEING WHEN I'M LOOKING AT THE COMPARABLES THE MINIMUM 2 03:01PM AMOUNT OF ACTIVITY. I JUST DON'T SEE ANY CASE IN WHICH THERE'S 3 03:01PM 03:01PM 4 LESS. AND I'M NOT SUGGESTING THAT IN AND OF ITSELF THAT'S NOT 03:01PM EXTRAORDINARILY SERIOUS, I DO, BUT ALL OF THE OTHER COMPARABLES 03:01PM SEEM TO HAVE SOMETHING ELSE GOING ON, YOU KNOW, ADVANCING 03:01PM 7 MONEY, OR GOING TO TRAINING, OR, YOU KNOW, THAT KIND OF THING. 03:01PM 8 MS. BECKER: I THINK THERE ARE SEVERAL CASES THAT 03:01PM 9 03:01PM 10 ARE SIMILARLY SITUATED AND THAT PEOPLE WERE ARRESTED AT THE AIRPORT ATTEMPTING TO TRAVEL. SOME HAD LIED ON THEIR PASSPORT 03:01PM 11 03:01PM 12 TO GET THEIR PASSPORT. THERE MAY HAVE BEEN AN ADDITIONAL 03:01PM 13 CHARGE OF THAT NATURE. 03:01PM 14 BUT TO THE EXTENT THAT THIS DEFENDANT WAS ATTEMPTING TO 03:01PM 15 TRAVEL WITH A TRAVEL COMPANION WHERE HE HAD PURCHASED THE TICKET FOR THIS OTHER PERSON WHO WAS A JUVENILE WHERE THEY HAD 03:01PM 16 03:01PM 17 HAD DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE TRIP WHERE HE HAD COMMUNICATED WITH 03:02PM 18 OTHERS ABOUT TRAVELLING AND JOINING ISIL, I'D SUBMIT --03:02PM 19 THE COURT: THERE'S NO INDICATION THAT HE RECRUITED 03:02PM 20 THAT INDIVIDUAL, RIGHT? IN FACT, THE INDIVIDUAL DIDN'T SHOW 03:02PM 21 UP, AS I UNDERSTAND IT, BUT HE'S COORDINATING THE TRAVEL BUT HE'S -- YOU'RE NOT -- AT LEAST IT DIDN'T SEEM TO BE A 03:02PM 22 03:02PM 23 SUGGESTION THAT HE HAD ACTIVELY RECRUITED THIS MINOR 03:02PM 24 PARTICIPANT? 03:02PM 25 MS. BECKER: HE WAS PAYING FOR HIS TICKET.

1 03:02PM 2 03:02PM 3 03:02PM 03:02PM 4 03:02PM 03:02PM 03:02PM 7 8 03:02PM 03:02PM 9 03:02PM 10 03:02PM 11 03:02PM 12 03:02PM 13 03:03PM 14 03:03РМ 15 03:03PM 16 17 03:03PM 18 03:03PM 03:03PM 19 20 03:03PM 21 03:03PM 03:03PM 22 03:03PM 23 03:03PM 24 03:03PM 25

THE COURT: OKAY.

MS. BECKER: SO I'M NOT GOING SO FAR AS SAYING WHOSE IDEA IT WAS TO TRAVEL. CERTAINLY THE JUVENILE PRESUMABLY INTENDED ON TRAVELLING AS WELL BUT WAS UNABLE TO COMPLETE HIS TRAVEL WHICH IS WHY HE DIDN'T SHOW UP AT THE AIRPORT, BUT NEVERTHELESS MR. NATSHEH IS THE ONE WHO PURCHASED THE TICKET AND WHO TOOK ALL OF THE PREPARATORY STEPS HERE TO OBTAIN A CREDIT CARD FOR THE PURPOSES OF BUYING THE TWO ROUND TRIP TICKETS.

SO THE PLAN WAS HATCHED SEVERAL WEEKS AHEAD OF TIME.

THERE HAD BEEN COMMUNICATIONS OVER A PERIOD OF MONTHS. OF

COURSE HE HAD BEEN COMMUNICATING WITH SOMEONE IN ANOTHER

COUNTRY ABOUT COMMITTING THE TRAVEL AS WELL.

SO WHILE IT'S ON ONE END OF THE SPECTRUM, IT'S THE

GOVERNMENT -- THE GOVERNMENT WOULD SUBMIT IT'S NOT AT THE

LOWEST LEVEL POSSIBLE AT THAT END WHERE LITERALLY YOU HAVE A

PERSON WHO DECIDED TO JOIN ISIL AND WENT TO THE AIRPORT AND

ATTEMPTED TO TRAVEL.

THERE WAS ONGOING DISCUSSION HERE OVER A PERIOD OF MONTHS.

THERE WAS, AGAIN, ATTEMPT TO TRAVEL WITH ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL,

PLANS THAT HAD BEEN MADE WITH A FEMALE IN ANOTHER COUNTRY. SO

IT'S --

THE COURT: YOU HAD INDICATED IN SOME OF THE RECORD

THAT THERE WAS AN ACTUAL DISCUSSION ABOUT ENGAGING IN ACTIVITY

IN THE UNITED STATES? CAN YOU POINT THAT OUT TO ME OR DIRECT

ME TO THAT? 1 03:03PM 2 MS. BECKER: IN PARAGRAPH 11 OF THE PSR, YOUR HONOR. 03:03PM THE COURT: OKAY. 3 03:03PM MS. BECKER: AND IT'S COMMUNICATION THAT -- THIS 03:03PM 4 PARAGRAPH ACTUALLY REFERS TO HIS POST-ARREST STATEMENT IN WHICH 03:04PM 03:04PM 6 HE MAKES REFERENCE TO IT. THE COURT: ADMITTED THAT ONE YEAR PRIOR HE THOUGHT 03:04PM 7 ABOUT CONDUCTING AN ATTACK INSIDE OF THE UNITED STATES, IS THAT 03:04PM 8 WHAT YOU'RE REFERRING? 03:04PM 9 03:04PM 10 MS. BECKER: YES, YOUR HONOR. THERE WAS A DISCUSSION WITH THE MINOR WITH WHOM HE WAS GOING TO TRAVEL AS 03:04PM 11 03:04PM 12 WELL. 03:04PM 13 THE COURT: OKAY. 03:04PM 14 MS. BECKER: WHEN IT WAS DETERMINED THAT HE WAS 03:04PM 15 UNABLE TO TRAVEL, HE ASKED WHETHER OR NOT HE SHOULD DO SOMETHING, THE MINOR SHOULD COMMIT SOMETHING IN THE UNITED 03:04PM 16 STATES AND THE MINOR -- I'M SORRY, AND MR. NATSHEH HAD SAID 03:04PM 17 03:04PM 18 DON'T DO ANYTHING HERE, JUST TRY TO TRAVEL TO SYRIA. 03:04PM 19 THE COURT: UH-HUH. 03:04PM 20 LET ME SHIFT THE FOCUS FOR A MOMENT AND JUST ASK YOU ABOUT 03:04PM 21 ALONG THE LINES OF CRAFTING AN APPROPRIATE SENTENCE, THERE WAS 03:04PM 22 DISCUSSION IN YOUR PAPERS UNDERSTANDABLY ABOUT, YOU KNOW, THE 03:04PM 23 DANGER OF RADICALIZATION AND ONE OF THE THINGS ANY SENTENCE IS TO BE DIRECTED TO IS TO AMELIORATE TO THE EXTENT THAT WE CAN 03:04PM 24 03:05PM 25 AND MINIMIZE THAT.

IS THERE ANY OR ARE THERE ANY PROGRAMS AT ALL OTHER THAN 1 03:05PM SUPERVISED RELEASE, ANY SENTENCE OR CUSTODIAL PART OF THE 2 03:05PM SENTENCE THAT IS DIRECTIVE TO THE BUREAU OF PRISONS, OR ANYONE 3 03:05PM ELSE, DIRECTS TOWARDS THAT PROBLEM? 03:05PM 4 WE HAVE MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELLING, AND WE HAVE DRUG 03:05PM COUNSELLING, SUBSTANCE COUNSELLING. DO WE HAVE ANY OTHER KIND 03:05PM OF COUNSELLING OR IS THIS GOING TO JUST BE A SITUATION OF THE 03:05PM 7 HOPE IS OVER A CERTAIN PERIOD OF TIME TO THE EXTENT THAT THERE 03:05PM 8 IS ANY RADICALIZATION IT WILL GO AWAY? 03:05PM 9 03:05PM 10 MS. BECKER: NO. HOPEFULLY THERE WILL BE A MORE FOCUSSED APPROACH TO REHABILITATION BOTH WITHIN THE BUREAU OF 03:05PM 11 03:05PM 12 PRISONS AND UPON RELEASE. 03:05PM 13 AS THE COURT MAY REALIZE, THIS IS THE FIRST CASE TO BE 03:05PM 14 SENTENCED IN OUR DISTRICT AND SO, THEREFORE, I'M NOT FAMILIAR 03:05PM 15 WITH WHETHER --THE COURT: APPARENTLY 71 CASES, IF I READ SOME OF 03:05PM 16 THE MATERIALS CORRECTLY. SO I WAS CURIOUS AND THOUGHT IT WAS 03:05PM 17 03:06PM 18 RELEVANT IF THERE ARE PROGRAMS FOR THIS SPECIFIC CONCERN OUT 03:06РМ 19 THERE. 03:06PM 20 MS. BECKER: SO MAIN JUSTICE HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN 03:06PM 21 COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE BUREAU OF PRISONS, AND THERE ARE 03:06PM 22 PROGRAMS THAT ARE IN PLACE IN OTHER DISTRICTS WHERE THEY HAVE 03:06PM 23 SEEN MORE CASES PROSECUTED AND CONVICTED AND SENTENCED. SO, AGAIN, THIS IS --03:06PM 24 03:06РМ 25 THE COURT: IS THIS ON THE SUPERVISED RELEASE PART

OR THE CUSTODIAL PART? 1 03:06PM MS. BECKER: BOTH IN THE BUREAU OF PRISONS AND ON 2 03:06PM SUPERVISED RELEASE OR OUT TO THE EXTENT THAT SOMEBODY HAS 3 03:06PM 03:06PM 4 ACTUALLY NOT BEEN INCARCERATED YET OR SENTENCED YET. SO, AGAIN, THIS IS NEW TO OUR DISTRICT. IT IS SOMETHING 03:06PM THAT WE WOULD HAVE TO DISCUSS IN TERMS OF SUPERVISED RELEASE 03:06PM 6 03:06PM 7 WHEN A PERSON RETURNS TO OUR DISTRICT IN TERMS OF HOW THAT WOULD BE HANDLED. 03:06PM 8 BUT THERE ARE PROGRAMS IN PLACE IN AT LEAST A COUPLE OF 03:06PM 9 DISTRICTS WHERE THEY ARE ADDRESSING THE SITUATION. 03:06PM 10 THE COURT: AND DO THE JUDGMENT AND COMMITMENT 03:06PM 11 03:06PM 12 ORDERS IN THOSE CASES HAVE ANY SOMEWHAT LIKE THE ANALOG AND THE 03:07PM 13 DRUG AREAS, RDAP AS WE ALL KNOW, IS THERE SOME PROGRAM THAT YOU 03:07PM 14 CAN -- THAT THE JUDGE CAN RECOMMEND THAT THE DEFENDANT 03:07PM 15 PARTICIPATE IN? MS. BECKER: YOUR HONOR, I'M NOT FAMILIAR WITH 03:07PM 16 WHETHER OR NOT IT'S A SPECIALLY NAMED PROGRAM. 03:07PM 17 03:07PM 18 WHAT I HAVE LEARNED ABOUT IT IS THAT IT'S SIMILAR TO OTHER 03:07PM 19 REHABILITATIVE PROGRAMS IN PLACE. I DON'T KNOW WHETHER OR NOT 03:07PM 20 IT HAS BEEN CATEGORIZED IN AND OF ITSELF. THAT CERTAINLY IS 03:07PM 21 SOMETHING THAT I CAN LOOK INTO, BUT I'M NOT AWARE OF IT AT THIS 03:07PM 22 TIME. 03:07PM 23 THE COURT: DO YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW MS. SPITALIERI? PROBATION OFFICER: I DO NOT BELIEVE THERE'S ANY 03:07PM 24 03:07PM 25 SPECIFIED PROGRAMS FOR THAT. I THINK THEY WOULD JUST USE IT AS

1 03:07PM 2 03:07PM 3 03:07PM 03:07PM 4 03:07PM 03:07PM 03:08PM 7 8 03:08PM 03:08PM 9 03:08PM 10 03:08PM 11 03:08PM 12 03:08PM 13 03:08PM 14 03:08PM 15 03:08PM 16 17 03:08PM 03:08PM 18 03:08PM 19 03:08PM 20 03:08PM 21 03:08PM 22 03:08PM 23 03:08PM 24

03:08PM 25

KIND OF A COMPONENT OF A MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM AND JUST MAKE IT MORE FOCUSSED.

AT LEAST ON THE SUPERVISED RELEASE SIDE, SINCE THIS IS

GOING TO BE ONE OF OUR FIRST CASES WITH THIS TYPE OF SITUATION,

IT WOULD PROBABLY BE CONTACTING THE OTHER DISTRICTS AND FINDING

OUT WHAT PROGRAMS THEY HAVE IN PLACE AND TRY TO IMPLEMENT

SOMETHING VERY SIMILAR TO THAT THROUGH THE MENTAL HEALTH

TREATMENT.

MS. MITCHELL: YOUR HONOR, I CAN SPEAK ON THIS ALSO.
THE COURT: GREAT.

MS. MITCHELL: SO THERE IS ACTUALLY NO PARTICULAR PROGRAM CURRENTLY SET UP IN THE BUREAU OF PRISONS TO TREAT INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE ACCUSED OF THIS AND IN THE PROCESS OF INDIVIDUALS GOING THROUGH RADICALIZATION.

WHAT HAS HAPPENED RECENTLY IS THERE'S A DISTRICT COURT IN MINNESOTA AND MINNEAPOLIS THAT HAS HAD A NUMBER OF CASES RELATED TO SOMALIANS WHO HAVE BEEN RECRUITED TO PARTICIPATE IN TERRORIST TYPE OF ACTIVITIES. THE DISTRICT COURT JUDGE THERE TOOK A PARTICULAR INTEREST IN THIS TOPIC AND WANTED TO TRY AND NIP IT IN THE BUD BECAUSE THEY HAD SUCH A LARGE SOMALIAN POPULATION THERE THAT HAD BEEN RELOCATED AS REFUGEES AND, IN FACT, SPECIFICALLY THERE WERE A NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO WERE REACHING OUT TO OTHER PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY TO JOIN INTO ISIL OR SUPPORT THE ACTIVITIES THERE.

WHAT HAPPENED WAS THAT JUDGE REACHED OUT TO PROBATION AND

1 03:08PM 2 03:08PM 3 03:08PM 03:09PM 4 03:09PM 03:09PM 03:09PM 7 8 03:09PM 03:09PM 9 03:09РМ 10 03:09PM 11 03:09PM 12 03:09PM 13 03:09PM 14 03:09РМ 15 03:09PM 16 17 03:09PM 18 03:09PM 03:09PM 19 20 03:09PM 21 03:09PM 03:10PM 22 03:10PM 23 03:10PM 24 03:10PM 25

THE BUREAU OF PRISONS DISCOVERED THAT THERE WAS NO PARTICULAR PROGRAM IN PLACE. THEY ALSO REACHED OUT TO PRETRIAL.

THE JUDGE THERE THEN PASSED THE U.S. ATTORNEY AND FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER WHO WERE INVOLVED IN THOSE CASES. THE FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER THERE IS MANNY ATWAL, AND I'VE SPOKEN WITH HER AT LENGTH ABOUT WHAT IS GOING ON THERE. SHE IS ACTUALLY A CITIZEN IN THE U.K. AND WAS PERMITTED TO TRAVEL TO THE U.K. AND WITH SPECIFIC DIRECTIVES FROM THE JUDGE THERE TO FIND OUT WHAT THEY WERE DOING FOR THEIR RADICALIZATION PROGRAM THERE.

AS A RESULT OF THAT THEY'VE BROUGHT BACK SOME WORK THAT
THEY HAVE BEEN DOING THERE OR ESPECIALLY WITH PRETRIAL RELEASE
WITH INDIVIDUALS WHO WERE ACCUSED OF TERRORISM CASES THERE. IT
HAS A SPECIFIC NAME FOR THE PROGRAM, AND IT SLIPS MY MIND RIGHT
NOW, BUT THEIR PROGRAM IS SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED SO THAT
INDIVIDUALS ON PRETRIAL RELEASE CAN START THE PROCESS OF
DERADICALIZATION AND THEY GO THROUGH A RATHER LENGTHY AND
SUBSTANTIAL PROCESS.

THE BUREAU OF PRISONS AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HAVE TAKEN A LOOK AT THIS PROGRAM AND THEY'RE GOING TO TRY AND INCORPORATE THE TRAINING THAT PRETRIAL HAS BEEN GIVING THERE AND DELIVER THAT TO THE PROBATION OFFICERS NATIONWIDE. HOWEVER, THAT HAS NOT COME INTO PLACE.

SPECIFICALLY WHAT HAS HAPPENED IS THAT THE BUREAU -- THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND THE DISTRICT COURT JUDGE IN THAT SITUATION HAVE REACHED OUT TO SOMEONE WHO HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN

1 03:10PM 2 03:10PM 3 03:10PM 03:10PM 4 03:10PM 03:10PM 03:10PM 7 8 03:10PM 03:10PM 9 03:10PM 10 03:10PM 11 03:10PM 12 03:10PM 13 03:11PM 14 03:11PM 15 03:11PM 16 03:11PM 17 03:11PM 18 03:11PM 19 03:11PM 20 03:11PM 21 03:11PM 22 03:11PM 23 03:11PM 24 03:11PM 25

DERADICALIZATION FOR A LONG PERIOD OF TIME IN THE U.K. AND
WHERE THEY ARE A LITTLE FURTHER ALONG THAN US ON THIS SITUATION
AND HE HAS GONE THROUGH THE PROCESS OF MEETING WITH INDIVIDUALS
WHO HAD A -- KIND OF A MATRIX FOR DETERMINING HOW RADICALIZED
THEY ARE AND THEN DETERMINES WHAT KIND OF PROCESS WOULD NEED TO
HAPPEN FOR DERADICALIZATION FOR THAT PERSON AND THEN ALSO WHAT
KINDS OF THERAPY THAT THEY CAN ENGAGE IN FOR PRETRIAL RELEASE
AND WHETHER OR NOT THAT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE.

MY UNDERSTANDING IS THAT THAT PERSON HAS STARTED TO TRAIN
THE PROBATION OFFICERS AND PRETRIAL OFFICERS BOTH IN
MINNEAPOLIS AND IN A FEW OTHER DISTRICTS WHERE THESE TYPES OF
CASES HAVE BEEN MORE PREVALENT, BUT TO MY KNOWLEDGE THE BUREAU
OF PRISONS HAS NO PROGRAM IN PLACE FOR ANY DERADICALIZATIONS
RIGHT NOW WHICH IS PART OF THE REASON WHY THE JUDGE THERE WAS
SPECIFICALLY LOOKING TO OUTSIDE SOURCES TO GET A PROGRAM
STARTED AND PROBATION AT THE CURRENT TIME DOES NOT HAVE A FULLY
FORMULATED PROGRAM BUT EVENTUALLY THEY WILL.

THE COURT: OKAY. THANK YOU. YOU CAN SHIFT BACK NOW TO WHATEVER ISSUES YOU WANT TO HIGHLIGHT FOR ME.

MS. MITCHELL: SO I THINK WE'VE EXHAUSTIVELY

ATTEMPTED TO BRIEF EVERYTHING THAT WE THINK THE COURT SHOULD BE

AWARE OF IN THE CASE OF MR. NATSHEH, BUT WE WANT TO JUST

BRIEFLY TOUCH ON SOME OF THE ISSUES THAT THE COURT JUST BROUGHT

UP IN SPEAKING WITH THE U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE IN THAT -- IN

COMPARISON WITH A LOT OF THE OTHER CASES.

03:11PM 1 03:11PM 2 3 03:11PM 03:11PM 4 03:11PM 03:12PM 03:12PM 7 03:12PM 8 03:12PM 9 03:12PM 10 03:12PM 11 03:12PM 12 03:12PM 13 03:12PM 14 03:12PM 15 03:12PM 16 17 03:12PM 03:12PM 18 03:12PM 19 03:12PM 20 21 03:12PM 03:12PM 22 03:13PM 23 03:13PM 24 03:13PM 25

WHAT THE COURT CAN SEE IS THAT MR. NATSHEH DOES NOT HAVE A LOT OF THE AGGRAVATING FACTORS THAT WERE PRESENT IN A NUMBER OF THE OTHER CASES. I SPECIFICALLY BROUGHT UP THE CASE I THINK IT WAS MS. CONNOLLY WHO RECEIVED THE 48-MONTH SENTENCE OUT OF COLORADO WHO JOINED A U.S. ARMY PROGRAM AND SHE RECEIVED FIRST AID TRAINING AND SHE HAD FIREARM TRAINING AND THE FBI MET WITH HER MULTIPLE TIMES BEFORE SHE WAS ACTUALLY ARRESTED AT THE AIRPORT AS A COMPARISON TO WHAT WAS GOING ON IN MR. NATSHEH'S CASE.

AND THEN I WOULD ALSO DRAW THE COURT'S ATTENTION TO A

NUMBER OF OTHER CASES THAT I HAVE RECENTLY BECOME AWARE OF IN

SPEAKING FURTHER WITH MS. ATWAL IN MINNEAPOLIS. HER TWO

CLIENTS INVOLVED IN THE CASES THAT THE JUDGE THERE HAD RECENTLY

BEEN SENTENCED. ONE RECEIVED PROBATION. ANOTHER CLIENT

RECEIVED A SENTENCE OF LESS THAN EIGHT YEARS OR TEN YEARS AND

ONE RECEIVED A SENTENCE OF I BELIEVE LESS THAN FOUR YEARS.

IN EACH OF THOSE CASES WHAT THE JUDGE BASICALLY NOTICED WAS THAT TIME IN CUSTODY IS NOT GOING TO MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE FOR ANY OF THESE INDIVIDUALS. THERE ARE PROGRAMS THAT HELPED WITH ANTI-RADICALIZATION. THERE'S NOT -- IT'S A SITUATION WHERE INDIVIDUALS WERE MAKING DECISIONS BASED OFF OF WHAT THEY BELIEVED WAS SOMETHING THAT THEY WERE GOING TO DO AND IN A LARGE PART FOR WHAT HE SAW WAS A HUMANITARIAN REASON. THESE WERE INDIVIDUALS WHO HAD DONE THINGS HERE IN THE UNITED STATES WHO WERE SAYING THEMSELVES WHO WERE PREPARING TO UNDERTAKE

VIOLENT ACTIONS, BUT THEY HAD ALL BEEN RECRUITED TO ISIL, AS I 1 03:13PM MENTIONED, PRE-2015 WHEN ISIL'S DIRECTIONS AND PROPAGANDA WERE 2 03:13PM MORE DIRECTED TOWARDS A HUMANITARIAN BET. 3 03:13PM 03:13PM 4 YES, THEY POSTED PICTURES OF THEMSELVES WITH GUNS AND, YES, THEY POSTED PICTURES OF THEMSELVES DOING CERTAIN THINGS 03:13PM 5 BUT THEY WERE DOING SO AS WE ARE FREEDOM FIGHTERS AND WE'RE 03:13PM 6 03:13PM 7 TRYING TO HELP OUR BROTHERS WITH FIGHTING ARMS IN SYRIA. THE COURT: BUT AS MS. BECKER DIRECTED ME TO, I 03:13PM 8 REALIZE THERE ARE SOME ASPECTS OF THE STATEMENT THAT INDICATES 03:13PM 9 03:13PM 10 MR. NATSHEH BACKED OFF FROM IT AND THEN ALSO ENCOURAGED THE MINOR INDIVIDUAL WE DISCUSSED NOT TO ENGAGE IN ANY ACTIVITIES. 03:13PM 11 03:13PM 12 BUT AT ONE POINT HE CONSIDERED ENGAGING IN VIOLENT CONDUCT 03:14PM 13 IN THIS COUNTRY. 03:14PM 14 MS. MITCHELL: AND THEN MADE THE CORRECT DECISION 03:14PM 15 NOT TO. THE COURT: WELL, TRUE. 03:14PM 16 03:14PM 17 MS. MITCHELL: BUT THAT'S A SIGN OF -- HE 03:14PM 18 SPECIFICALLY TOLD THE JUVENILE DO NOT DO ANYTHING HERE IN THE 03:14PM 19 UNITED STATES. 03:14PM 20 AND --03:14PM 21 THE COURT: BUT TO SOME EXTENT TO YOUR POINT THAT 03:14PM 22 THE MOTIVATION HERE IS ENTIRELY FOCUSSED ON YOU SAID SOMETHING 03:14PM 23 TO THE EFFECT OF HUMANITARIAN ASPECTS OF THIS. I DON'T THINK I CAN CHARACTERIZE IT IN THAT FASHION. 03:14PM 24 03:14PM 25 MS. MITCHELL: I WOULDN'T SAY WHOLLY BUT IT WAS --

1 03:14PM 2 03:14PM 3 03:14PM 03:14PM 03:14PM 03:14PM 6 03:14PM 7 03:15PM 8 03:15PM 9 03:15PM 10 03:15PM 11 03:15PM 12 03:15PM 13 03:15PM 14 03:15PM 15 03:15PM 16 03:15PM 17 03:15PM 18 03:15PM 19 03:15PM 20 03:15PM 21 03:15PM 22 03:16PM 23 03:16PM 24 03:16PM 25

THE PROPAGANDA THAT ISIL WAS DIRECTING TOWARDS INDIVIDUALS IN AN ATTEMPT TO RECRUIT THEM WAS NOT AS AN EXPERT HAD NOTICED IN 2015, MID-2015, THE SHIFT IN WHAT THEY WERE DOING AND HOW THEY PRESENTED THEMSELVES CHANGED.

ISIL CHANGED FROM A DIRECTIVE MORE TOWARDS -- AND THIS IS

DEEP INTO THE PROPAGANDA. IT'S NOT THE SURFACE STUFF THAT WE

ALL SEE AND WE GET AGHAST AT. IT IS THE CALL TO WE HAVE PEOPLE

HERE THAT WE SHOULD FEEL SOLIDARITY WITH AND WE'RE SEPARATING.

NO ONE IS DOING ANYTHING ABOUT IT, AND WE NEED TO BE THE

PEOPLE.

THE COURT: NO. I READ THROUGH THE EXTENSIVE BACKGROUND THAT YOU'VE PROVIDED FOR ME.

YOU KNOW, THE ISSUE THAT I WAS DISCUSSING WITH MS. BECKER THAT I'M MULLING OVER IS, AS I INDICATED BEFORE, AND I THINK SHE DOESN'T DIRECTLY DISPUTE, MR. NATSHEH WAS APPREHENDED AT A POINT WHERE VERY LITTLE IN TERMS OF ACTUAL EFFORT HAD TAKEN PLACE. SO IT WAS EARLY IN THE GAME, IF YOU WILL.

MS. MITCHELL: YES, THAT IS CORRECT.

THE COURT: THAT IS BOTH IN THE ONE SENSE FORTUNATE,

VERY FORTUNATE FOR HIM THAT HE WAS APPREHENDED IN MANY WAYS.

BUT THEN THE QUESTION IS, TO PUT IT QUITE BLUNTLY, HOW

MUCH CREDIT DOES HE GET FOR HAVING BEEN STOPPED EARLY IN THE

PROCESS? HE DOES REPRESENT THE PROSPECT THAT HAD HE SUCCEEDED

IN GOING TO SYRIA, HE WAS, AS THE GOVERNMENT POINTS OUT, AN

AMERICAN CITIZEN, HAD THE RADICALIZATION GONE A BAD WAY, HE

COULD HAVE WELL RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES AND POSED A 1 03:16PM SIGNIFICANT DANGER. 2 03:16PM SO, IN OTHER WORDS, YES, IN TERMS OF LOOKING AT SOME OF 3 03:16PM THE COMPARABLES, HE'S IN THE GROUP THAT DIDN'T GET VERY FAR, 03:16PM 4 BUT SHOULDN'T I TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE PROSPECT THAT HAD HE 03:16PM GOTTEN AS FAR AS HE WANTED, HE COULD REPRESENT A VERY SERIOUS 03:16PM 6 DANGER TO THE UNITED STATES? 03:16PM 7 MS. MITCHELL: THE COURT CAN TAKE THAT INTO 03:16PM 8 CONSIDERATION, BUT THE COURT CAN ALSO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION 03:16PM 9 03:16PM 10 THAT MR. NATSHEH COULD HAVE GOTTEN TO TURKEY AND DECIDED TO COME BACK OR HE COULD HAVE GOTTEN TO SYRIA, THE BORDER, AND 03:16PM 11 03:16PM 12 DECIDED TO COME BACK. 03:16PM 13 THE COURT: SHOULD I MAKE ALL OF THE INFERENCES IN 03:16PM 14 HIS FAVOR? 03:16PM 15 MS. MITCHELL: I DON'T THINK THAT THE COURT HAS TO MAKE ANY INFERENCES ONE WAY OR ANOTHER ABOUT HOW IT COULD HAVE 03:16PM 16 GONE WORSE OR IT COULD HAVE GONE BETTER. 03:17PM 17 03:17PM 18 FRANKLY, THE PROBLEM IS WITH THIS OFFENSE, HE COMMITTED --03:17PM 19 THE MOMENT HE PURCHASED THE PLANE TICKET IS WHEN THE GOVERNMENT 03:17PM 20 ESSENTIALLY COULD HAVE ARRESTED HIM FOR IT AND ANYWHERE ALONG 03:17PM 21 THAT LINE MANY DIFFERENT THINGS COULD HAVE HAPPENED ONE WAY OR 03:17PM 22 ANOTHER. 03:17PM 23 THE COURT: TRUE. MS. MITCHELL: MR. NATSHEH, HOWEVER, WAS STOPPED AT 03:17PM 24 03:17PM 25 A POINT WHERE ALL OF THE THINGS LEADING UP TO THE POINT WHERE

03:17PM 1 2 03:17PM 3 03:17PM 03:17PM 03:17PM 5 03:17PM 6 03:17PM 7 03:17PM 8 03:17PM 9 03:18PM 10 03:18PM 11 03:18PM 12 03:18PM 13 03:18PM 14 03:18PM 15 03:18PM 16 03:18PM 17 03:18PM 18 03:18PM 19 03:18PM 20 03:18PM 21 03:18PM 22 03:18PM 23 03:18PM 24 03:18PM 25

HE WAS STOPPED THE COURT CAN LOOK AT AS DEFINITIVE SIGNS THAT
THIS IS VERY LOW ON THE SCALE OF OTHER INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE
TAKEN A MUCH GREATER PREPARATION AND INVOLVED OTHER PEOPLE AND
DONE FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS, AND MANY OTHER THINGS THAT HE
HIMSELF NOT DONE.

WHAT THE COURT CAN ALSO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION IS WHERE

HE IS AND WHAT IS MORE LIKELY TO HAPPEN TO HIM AFTER HE GETS

RELEASED. HE'S STILL A VERY YOUNG MAN WHO HAS NOT EXHIBITED TO

MYSELF, I THINK TO THE GOVERNMENT, SIGNS THAT HE IS NOT A

PERSON WHO COULD BE A U.S. CITIZEN WITH NO DANGER TO ANYONE

ELSE.

HE IS NOT SO RADICALIZED THAT HE STRIKES FEAR WITH

EVERYTHING HE SAYS; THAT HE CANNOT AND WILL NOT BE A PERSON WHO

CAN CONTRIBUTE TO SOCIETY. HE'S A 21-YEAR-OLD AND WHO ACTS

LIKE A 21-YEAR-OLD DOES AND WHO THINKS LIKE A 21-YEAR-OLD DOES.

HE HAS NOT HAD THE CHANCE YET TO REALLY TAKE A LOOK AT WHERE HE WAS GOING IN HIS LIFE. AND WHAT WAS GOING ON AND REALLY THINK THROUGH WHAT WAS HAPPENING.

INSTEAD, HE GOT A CREDIT CARD. HE DIDN'T SAVE UP MONEY

FOR MONTHS TO BE ABLE TO MAKE THIS TRIP. HE HAD NO OTHER FUNDS

WITH HIM ASIDE FROM A CREDIT CARD THAT HE WAS GOING TO USE TO

MAKE THIS TRIP. THIS IS NOT A WELL-THOUGHT-OUT PLAN OF A

PERSON WHO HAS BEEN THINKING ABOUT DOING THIS FOREVER AND

ACTUALLY TAKING STEPS TO DOING IT.

THIS IS A TEENAGER WHO IS SO DEPRESSED THAT HE SPENT A

1 03:19PM 2 03:19PM 3 03:19PM 03:19PM 4 03:19PM 03:19PM 6 03:19PM 7 03:19PM 8 03:19PM 9 03:19PM 10 03:19PM 11 03:19PM 12 03:19PM 13 03:19PM 14 03:19PM 15 03:19PM 16 03:19PM 17 03:19PM 18 03:19PM 19 03:19PM 20 03:20PM 21 03:20PM 22 03:20PM 23 03:20PM 24 03:20PM 25

WEEK IN HIS ROOM AND DIDN'T EAT OR DRINK AND HAD HIS PARENTS

CALLING FAMILY FRIENDS WHO THEN GOT ON THE PHONE WITH HIM WHILE

HE SOBBED AND HIM SAYING I'M SO DEPRESSED AND I CAN'T FIGURE

OUT WHAT TO DO WITH MY LIFE.

THE COURT: OF COURSE THE DILEMMA WE FACE IS THE PROFILE IS PRECISELY A PROFILE OF SOMEONE WHO CAN BE QUITE DANGEROUS.

MS. MITCHELL: AND IT IS ALSO THE PROFILE OF A

PERSON WHO IF GIVEN A CHANCE TO GROW UP AND GIVE THEM SOME

MATURITY AND THINK ABOUT THINGS AND WHO COULD COME OUT OF

CUSTODY AND BE PERFECTLY FINE. AND THAT'S WHO I BELIEVE HE IS.

WHILE THE GOVERNMENT ATTEMPTS TO DISCOUNT SOME OF THE FACTORS THAT WE'VE BROUGHT FORTH, THE STRONG FAMILY INVOLVEMENT, I THINK IT'S VERY CLEAR THAT HAD ANY OF THE FAMILY MEMBERS ACTUALLY KNOWN THAT HIS ACT OF GETTING ON THE PLANE, HIS FATHER WHO HAD DEMONSTRATED SOME STRONG DISCIPLINE BEFORE WOULD HAVE CONTINUED TO DO THAT AND DONE EVERYTHING IN HIS POWER TO PREVENT HIM FROM DOING THAT.

THAT HE COOPERATED WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT WHILE THE

GOVERNMENT SAYS THAT THAT'S GREAT THAT HE DID THAT, I THINK

THAT THAT SHOWS THAT MR. NATSHEH IS APPROACHABLE, THAT HE'S

AMENABLE TO WORKING WITH OTHERS AND THAT HE WAS ATTEMPTING TO

TRY TO MAKE RIGHT WHAT HAPPENED.

THAT HE HAD BEEN SUFFERING FROM DEPRESSION FOR A VERY LONG PERIOD OF TIME, AND THAT WAS DEMONSTRATED BY OTHER PEOPLE.

03:20PM 1 2 03:20PM 3 03:20PM 03:20PM 4 03:20PM 03:20PM 03:20PM 7 8 03:20PM 03:20PM 9 03:20PM 10 03:20PM 11 03:20PM 12 03:21PM 13 03:21PM 14 03:21PM 15 03:21PM 16 03:21PM 17 03:21PM 18 03:21PM 19 03:21PM 20 03:21PM 21 03:21PM 22 03:21PM 23 03:21PM 24 03:21PM 25

WHILE MR. NATSHEH DIDN'T HAVE LONG-TERM CONTACTS WITH DOCTORS,
HE DID HAVE VERY RECOGNIZABLE SIGNS THAT WERE VISIBLE TO
EVERYONE ELSE WHO COULD SAY THAT THIS IS A PERSON WHO WAS
DEPRESSED, AND THEY WERE TRYING TO GET HIM SOME ASSISTANCE.

IT IS VERY EASY TO SAY THAT IT IS A SCARY THING THAT HE WAS GOING TO DO AND ISIL IS A VERY SCARY ORGANIZATION SO WE SHOULD PUT HIM IN CUSTODY FOR A LONG TIME.

BUT FOR WHO HE IS AND THE STEPS THAT HE ACTUALLY TOOK IN ANTICIPATION OF GETTING ON THE PLANE, I THINK THAT IT'S APPARENT THAT FIRST A LOWER SENTENCE IS APPROPRIATE FOR HIM, AND, IN FACT, THAT NOW THAT WE'RE GETTING AND STARTING TO LOOK AT MORE OF THESE TYPES OF CASES WHERE THE GOVERNMENT IS ACTUALLY BEING ABLE TO GO THROUGH AND DO THE PROSECUTION AND INVOLVING THE SCIENCE, WHICH IS SOMETHING THAT HAS RECENTLY STARTED HAPPENING WITH RADICALIZATION AND WHY PEOPLE BECOME RADICALIZED, I THINK WE'RE ON A TREND OF SEEING SOME OF THESE TYPES OF CASES WHERE WE START GETTING MORE DOCTORS AND MORE PEOPLE INVOLVED WHERE WE CAN SAY THIS IS A PERSON WHO IS OF CONCERN BECAUSE OF THE ACTS THAT THEY HAVE DONE AND IN THIS CASE I DON'T SEE THAT WITH MR. NATSHEH. I DON'T SEE THE NEED TO PUT HIM AWAY FOR A LONG PERIOD.

FRANKLY, I THINK FOUR YEARS IS STILL A VERY SUBSTANTIAL

AMOUNT OF TIME FOR THIS OFFENSE, BUT IN COMPARISON TO THE OTHER

TYPES OF OFFENSES THAT ARE OUT THERE, THE OTHER SENTENCES THAT

ARE OUT THERE, I THOUGHT IT WAS A REASONABLE SENTENCE TO US.

03:21PM 1 03:21PM 2 03:21PM 3 03:21PM 4 03:21PM 5 03:22PM 6 03:22PM 7 03:22PM 8 03:22PM 9 03:22PM 10 03:22PM 11 03:22PM 12 03:22PM 13 03:22PM 14 03:22PM 15 03:22PM 16 03:22PM 17 03:22PM 18 03:22PM 19 03:22PM 20 03:23PM 21 03:23PM 22 03:23PM 23 03:23PM 24 03:23PM 25

THE COURT: BEFORE I GOT TO MR. NATSHEH, MS. BECKER.

MS. BECKER: THANK YOU, YOUR HONOR. I WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS A FEW OF THE ISSUES THAT BOTH THE COURT AND MS. MITCHELL RAISED.

WITH RESPECT TO PROPAGANDA, WHILE IT DOES SEEM CLEAR THAT

MR. NATSHEH DID ACCOMPLISH SOME PROPAGANDA, IT'S IMPORTANT TO

KNOW THE TYPE OF PROPAGANDA THAT HE WAS FOLLOWING INCLUDING, AS

PUT IN OUR PAPERS AND AS TERRIBLE AS IT IS TO REPEAT, THE

PROPAGANDA THAT HE WAS FOLLOWING AND REPOSTING AND SHARING WITH

OTHERS WAS THAT OF THAT CAGED JORDANIAN PILOT WHO WAS BURNED

ALIVE. THAT'S THE PROPAGANDA HE WAS FOLLOWING, NOT A NIKE AD

WITH ISIL OR A SNICKERS AD WITH ISIL. HE WAS INTERESTED IN THE

MOST BRUTAL OF PROPAGANDA.

I WOULD ALSO DISAGREE WITH THE IDEA THAT THE DEFENDANT WAS APPREHENDED EARLY IN THE GAME. THE GOVERNMENT'S POINT IS ACTUALLY TO THE CONTRARY. HE WAS APPREHENDED AT THE VERY END OF THE GAME. HE WAS ARRESTED AS HE WAS ABOUT TO BOARD HIS PLANE. THERE WAS NOTHING LEFT FOR HIM TO DO TO COMPLETE THE ACT OTHER THAN TO GET THERE.

EVERY OTHER ASPECT OF MATERIAL SUPPORT WAS COMMITTED. YOU DON'T HAVE TO TRAIN IN THE UNITED STATES PRIOR TO LEAVING IN ORDER TO COMMIT AN ACT OF TERRORISM ELSEWHERE. YOU DON'T HAVE TO KNOW THOSE COMBAT SKILLS. HE WAS INTENDING ON FIGHTING THERE REGARDLESS OF WHETHER OR NOT HE LEARNED HOW TO DO SO HERE OR HE LEARNED HOW TO DO SO THERE.

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SO HE WAS ACTUALLY ARRESTED AT THE VERY LAST STEP, NOT -IT MAY SEEM --

THE COURT: WELL, THAT'S TRUE, BUT THAT, TOO, FOR PURPOSES OF COMPLETING THE OFFENSE, I DON'T DISAGREE WITH YOU BUT IN TERMS OF ASSESSING THE RAMIFICATIONS OF -- THERE'S NO DOUBT THAT HE COMMITTED WHAT HE NEEDED TO COMMIT TO BE ADJUDGED GUILTY, AND I TOOK HIS PLEA. AND IF HE DIDN'T, I WOULDN'T HAVE TAKEN HIS PLEA.

BUT IT IS -- THERE IS -- IT COULD HAVE -- IT CONCLUDED WITH THAT, FRANKLY. HE COULD HAVE GONE OFF TO SYRIA AND WE NEVER HEARD OF HIM AGAIN. I MEAN, WE DON'T KNOW.

SO WHEN YOU COMPARE THAT TO THE OTHER CASES THAT YOU VIEW,
AND MS. MITCHELL HAS PROVIDED TO ME, WHERE THERE IS MORE
ACTIVITY IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE COMPLETION OF THE OFFENSE,
THAT WAS MY POINT. I'M NOT SUGGESTING THAT HE DIDN'T COMPLETE
THE OFFENSE BECAUSE I TOOK HIS PLEA.

MS. BECKER: YES, YOUR HONOR. I THINK COMPARED TO THE OTHER CASES, THERE ARE SOME CASES, YOU KNOW, I DON'T WANT TO REPEAT MYSELF, THAT ARE SIMILARLY SITUATED, AND THERE ARE OBVIOUSLY SOME, YES, THAT ARE MUCH MORE EGREGIOUS IN TERMS OF THE PREPARATION.

BUT AS MS. MITCHELL WAS COMMENTING ON MR. NATSHEH'S

PREPARATION, THIS WAS NOT AN IMPULSIVE ACT ON HIS PART

WHATSOEVER. HE HAD EXPRESSED FOR MONTHS AN INTEREST IN ISIL.

HE WAS INTERVIEWED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES AT WHICH TIME

HE STATED THAT HE HAD CHANGED HIS WAYS AND HE WAS NO LONGER 1 03:24PM INTERESTED IN PURSUING THAT -- THOSE -- THAT WAY OR HIS 03:24PM 2 THOUGHTS. 3 03:24PM THE COURT: THE IMPORTANCE, THOUGH, IN MY MIND OF 03:24PM 03:24PM 5 THIS ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY IS NOT JUST THAT THERE IS ADDITIONAL 03:24PM 6 ACTIVITY. 03:24PM 7 IT'S JUST THAT WE CAN GLEAN FROM IN SOME OF THOSE CASES 03:24PM 8 THE ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY GIVES US A PRETTY GOOD WINDOW OF THE INTENTION OF THE DEFENDANT. 03:24PM 9 03:25PM 10 IN THIS CASE WE HAVE ONE CLEAR INTENTION AND THAT IS TO GO TO SYRIA AND JOIN THIS ORGANIZATION. THAT'S THE ONLY REAL 03:25PM 11 03:25PM 12 INTENTION THAT WE KNOW OF AT THIS POINT WHEREAS SOME OF THE 03:25PM 13 OTHER CASES WHEN THERE ARE -- WHEN THEY'RE RECRUITING OTHERS 03:25PM 14 AND WHEN THEY ARE DOING THAT KIND OF ACTIVITY, THAT'S AN 03:25PM 15 ADDITIONAL HARM AND DANGER TO THE UNITED STATES BY DOING THAT. SO THE POINT IS SIMPLY THAT WITH THAT ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY 03:25PM 16 03:25PM 17 YOU CAN REALLY ASSESS THE MAGNITUDE OF THE DANGER IN A WAY THAT 03:25PM 18 I THINK I'M HAVING A HARD TIME OF DOING HERE. 03:25PM 19 MS. BECKER: UNDERSTOOD. I DON'T HAVE ANY OTHER 03:25PM 20 FACTS TO OFFER TO THE COURT OTHER THAN THE INTENDED TRAVEL WITH 03:25PM 21 A MINOR. 03:25PM 22 THE COURT: RIGHT. 03:25PM 23 MS. BECKER: WE'RE NOT AWARE OF HIM OBTAINING MILITARY TRAINING IN THE UNITED STATES PRIOR TO LEAVING. WE 03:25PM 24 03:25PM 25 DON'T KNOW WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED HAD HE RETURNED TO THE

1 03:26PM 2 03:26PM 3 03:26PM 03:26PM 4 03:26PM 03:26PM 03:26PM 7 8 03:26PM 03:26PM 9 03:26PM 10 03:26PM 11 03:26PM 12 03:26PM 13 03:26PM 14 03:26PM 15 03:26PM 16 17 03:26PM 18 03:26PM 03:27PM 19 20 03:27PM 21 03:27PM 03:27PM 22 03:27PM 23 03:27PM 24 03:27PM 25

UNITED STATES. THERE ARE MANY OPEN QUESTIONS. SO THE GOVERNMENT AGREES WITH ALL THAT IT'S FORTUNATE THAT HE WAS STOPPED AT THE AIRPORT SO THAT BOTH HIS LIFE AND OTHERS WERE PROTECTED.

BUT GOING BACK TO THE THOUGHT THAT THIS WAS NOT AN IMPULSIVE ACT ON HIS PART, AGAIN, HE HAD BEEN COMMUNICATING FOR MONTHS ABOUT HIS INTENT TO JOIN ISIL. HE OBVIOUSLY HAD ALREADY BEEN RADICALIZED AND HAD BEEN COMMUNICATING WITH A MINOR ABOUT COMMITTING ACTS OVERSEAS. HE DID OPEN UP A NEW LINE OF CREDIT TO PURCHASE A TICKET AND HE EMPTIED HIS BANK ACCOUNT PRIOR TO LEAVING. THIS WAS A CONCERTED PLAN, AGAIN, NOT JUST SHOWING UP AT THE AIRPORT AND DECIDED TO GO FOR THE DAY.

SO MS. MITCHELL HAS OBVIOUSLY POINTED OUT SENTENCES THAT
ARE AT THE LOW END. AS THE COURT HAS REVIEWED THE REPORT THAT
WAS ATTACHED TO THE GOVERNMENT'S FIRST SENTENCING MEMORANDUM,
THERE ARE OBVIOUSLY A NUMBER OF SENTENCES THAT ARE AT THE OTHER
END. AGAIN, MANY OF THOSE CASES INVOLVE DIFFERENT
CIRCUMSTANCES THAN THE CASE AT HAND, BUT, AGAIN, THERE ARE
SEVERAL LETTERS STILL WITHIN THE HEARTLAND OF WHAT WE'RE
LOOKING AT. AT THE TIME OF THE SENTENCES IN ALL OF THOSE CASES
THE STATUTORY MAXIMUM WAS 15 YEARS AND THERE ARE, IN FACT,
SEVERAL DEFENDANTS WHO RECEIVED 15 YEARS WHETHER THEY PLED OR
WERE CONVICTED AT TRIAL.

THERE ARE SOME WHO RECEIVED A SLIGHTLY LESSER SENTENCE OF 10 YEARS, AND THAT IS, IN FACT, WHAT THE GOVERNMENT IS

03:27PM	1	RECOMMENDING HERE BY RECOMMENDING 15 YEARS. THE STATUTORY
03:27PM	2	MAXIMUM CHANGED IN THE MEANTIME TO 20 YEARS. THE GOVERNMENT IS
03:27PM	3	RECOMMENDING A SENTENCE OF 15 YEARS AS BEING APPROPRIATE.
03:27PM	4	GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THIS CASE, THEY ARE NOT AS EGREGIOUS
03:27PM	5	AS SOME OF THE OTHERS BUT NEVERTHELESS DEMONSTRATE 100 PERCENT
03:27PM	6	COMMITMENT TO COMMITTING THE ACT AS MUCH AS ANY OTHER
03:27PM	7	DEFENDANTS IN ANY OF THOSE CASES.
03:27PM	8	THE COURT: THANK YOU.
03:27PM	9	MR. NATSHEH, THIS IS YOUR SENTENCING. YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO
03:27PM	10	SPEAK DIRECTLY TO ME. YOU'RE NOT OBLIGATED TO DO SO. IT'S UP
03:28PM	11	TO YOU.
03:28PM	12	BUT IF THERE IS ANYTHING YOU WANT TO SAY, NOW WOULD BE THE
03:28PM	13	TIME TO SAY IT.
03:28PM	14	THE DEFENDANT: SO I JUST WANT TO SAY THAT
03:28PM	15	THE COURT: WHY DON'T YOU MOVE THE MICROPHONE CLOSER
03:28PM	16	TO YOU.
03:28PM	17	THE DEFENDANT: SO I JUST WANT TO SAY THAT I'M FULLY
03:28PM	18	AWARE OF THE NATURE OF MY CRIME AND THE CONSEQUENCES THAT MY
03:28PM	19	ACTIONS HAVE YIELD, AND WHAT I TRIED TO DO IS VERY WRONG AND IT
03:28PM	20	SOUNDS REALLY UGLY, BUT I'M VERY FORTUNATE THAT I'M HERE EVEN
03:28PM	21	THOUGH I'M INCARCERATED. MY DAD TELLS ME THAT ALL OF THE TIME
03:28PM	22	BECAUSE THERE'S NO GUARANTEE THAT
03:28PM	23	THE COURT: HE'S RIGHT.
03:28PM	24	THE DEFENDANT: THERE'S NO GUARANTEE THAT IF I
03:28PM	25	WOULD HAVE SUCCESSFULLY MADE IT TO SYRIA THAT I WOULD BE ALIVE.

1 03:28PM 2 03:28PM 3 03:28PM 03:29PM 4 03:29PM 03:29PM 03:29PM 7 03:29PM 8 03:29PM 9 03:29PM 10 03:29PM 11 03:29PM 12 03:29PM 13 03:30PM 14 03:30PM 15 03:30PM 16 03:30PM 17 03:30PM 18 03:30PM 19 03:30PM 20 03:30PM 21 03:30PM 22 03:30PM 23 03:30PM 24 03:30РМ 25

THE CONTEXT OF MY CRIME REQUIRED ME TO ABANDON MY FAMILY WITHOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF EVER SEEING THEM AGAIN, AND IT WAS REALLY AN ACT OF SELFISHNESS, AND I DIDN'T REALIZE HOW MUCH MY FAMILY NEEDED ME. IT WAS A DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO TRY TO DO SOMETHING TO MAKE MYSELF FEEL GOOD BY TRYING TO HELP OTHERS.

SO I KNOW THAT I HAVE A PROBLEM, AND I UNDERSTAND THAT I
DO HAVE THE PROBLEM. AND I DON'T KNOW THE WAY THE DRUG
PROGRAMS DO IT, BUT THE FIRST THING IS THAT YOU ACKNOWLEDGE
THAT YOU HAVE A PROBLEM AND THEN YOU TRY TO SEE HOW IT
HAPPENED.

SO I'VE READ A LOT INTO THE SUBJECT, AND I WAS REALLY
MOVED EMOTIONALLY BY THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN SYRIA, AND IT'S
NOT AN UNDERSTATEMENT THAT THEY TOOK THAT OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE
ADVANTAGE OF OUR EMOTIONS. REALLY THAT'S WHAT I WANTED TO DO
WAS TO TRY TO HELP PEOPLE.

YOU KNOW, I HAVE A HISTORY OF DOING A LOT OF CHARITY WORK
AND RAISING MONEY FOR THE PALESTINIANS IN GAZA AND FOR THE
DROUGHT IN WEST AFRICA AND FOR MANY OTHER THINGS. AND THAT'S
REALLY WHAT I WAS TRYING TO DO. IT JUST SOUNDS REALLY UGLY.
IT'S A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION.

THE CHARGE IS A TERRORISM CHARGE, BUT I THINK IT'S -- MY

CASE IS LESS SERIOUS THAN IT REALLY SOUNDS, BUT I'M NOT TRYING

TO JUSTIFY WHAT I TRIED TO DO. IT WAS WRONG. I WAS IGNORANT.

I WAS NAIVE. I WAS IMMATURE. AND I WAS JUST -- THE MOMENTS

BEFORE GETTING A -- BEFORE TRYING TO GET ON THE PLANE I JUST --

1 03:30PM 2 03:31PM 3 03:31PM 03:31PM 4 03:31PM 03:31PM 6 03:31PM 7 03:31PM 8 03:31PM 9 03:31PM 10 03:31PM 11 03:32PM 12 03:32PM 13 03:32PM 14 03:32PM 15 03:32PM 16 03:32PM 17 03:32PM 18 03:32PM 19 03:32PM 20 03:32PM 21 03:32PM 22 03:32PM 23 03:33PM 24 03:33РМ 25

MY WHOLE THINKING WAS JUST CLOUDY AND NOW I CAN SEE THAT

THERE'S SO MANY DIFFERENT WAYS THAT I COULD HAVE HAD HELP BUT,

YOU KNOW, MY OLD WAY OF THINKING WAS WRONG, THE WAY I TRIED TO

HELP THE PEOPLE WAS WRONG, AND I LOST DIRECTION.

AND I'M GOING TO BETTER MYSELF, AND I HAVE THE SUPPORT OF MY FAMILY, MY FRIENDS. I LOVE THEM. THEY'VE REALLY HELPED ME IN THIS PROCESS TO TRANSITION FROM MY OLD WAY OF THINKING. SO THAT'S WHAT I'VE BEEN FOCUSSING ON IN THE PAST 11 MONTHS, FOCUSSING ON RESTRUCTURING MYSELF MENTALLY, PSYCHOLOGICALLY, AND I'VE REALIGNED MY FOCUS ON FINISHING MY EDUCATION, BUILDING A STRONG BOND WITH FAMILY AND AMBITIONS OF OPENING MY OWN BUSINESS.

THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS WHO ARE HERE TODAY, THEY CONTINUE
TO STAND BY ME AND THEY KNOW THAT I HAVE THE CHARACTER TO KEEP
ON GOING AND TO SUCCEED IN THIS LIFE, AND I JUST HOPE THAT YOU
SEE THAT, TOO, AND THAT YOU FEEL STRONG AND CONFIDENT THAT I
HAVE MORE TO OFFER MY COUNTRY, MY COMMUNITY BY BEING A
PRODUCTIVE CITIZEN AGAIN.

AND I HAVE A GOOD HEART. I'M A GOOD PERSON AND I JUST -I STRAYED OFF THE PATH AND GETTING ARRESTED IS PROBABLY THE
MOST FORTUNATE THING TO HAPPEN.

AND I JUST NEED HELP.

THE COURT: AS YOU KNOW FROM THE DISCUSSION THAT
WE'VE JUST HAD AND IN THE MATERIALS THAT I'VE REVIEWED YOU
CERTAINLY HAVE A FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHT TO SAY -- EXPRESS YOUR

1 03:33PM 2 03:33PM 3 03:33PM 03:33PM 03:33PM 03:33PM 03:33PM 7 8 03:33PM 03:33PM 9 03:33PM 10 03:33PM 11 03:33PM 12 13 03:34PM 03:34PM 14 03:34РМ 15 03:34PM 16 17 03:34PM 18 03:34PM 03:34PM 19 20 03:34PM 21 03:34PM 03:34PM 22 03:34PM 23 03:34PM 24 03:34PM 25

VIEWS, BUT YOU UNDERSTAND THAT SOME OF THE THINGS THAT WERE POSTED BEFORE THIS TRIP THAT INDICATED ON YOUR PART SOME ACCEPTANCE OF SOME REALLY REVOLTING AND HORRIBLE THINGS.

HOW CAN YOU -- AND YOU'VE INDICATED TO ME THAT YOU'VE SEEN YOUR WAYS. HOW CAN I KNOW THAT? WHAT CAN YOU TELL ME TO CAUSE -- TO MAKE SURE THAT I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU'VE LOOKED AT THOSE THINGS AND REALIZED HOW HORRIFIC THEY REALLY ARE AND THAT THEY'RE NOT HUMANITARIAN AND ALL OF THAT? WHAT CAN YOU TELL ME ON THAT?

THE DEFENDANT: JUST EVERYTHING I'VE BEEN READING IN THE NEWSPAPER AND SEEING ON THE NEWS AND THE RECENT EVENTS THAT HAPPENED IN EUROPE AND THE UNITED STATES, IT JUST BECOMES MORE APPARENT THAT THEY'RE NO DIFFERENT THAN AL-QUEDA, BUT THEY TRY TO POSE THEMSELVES DIFFERENT THAN AL-QUEDA BY SAYING THAT, YOU KNOW, WE'RE TRYING TO HELP THE PEOPLE AND WE'RE DOING ALL OF THESE THINGS AND ME BEING NAIVE, THEY TOOK ADVANTAGE OF ME AND MY EMOTIONS AND BASICALLY SAID, WELL, HERE'S THE FOUNDATION FOR YOU TO DO THAT TO HELP AND WE HAVE ALL OF THE RESOURCES THAT YOU NEED AND THEY JUST -- THAT WAS MORE -- IT WAS MORE

THE PROPAGANDA IS REALLY POWERFUL. LIKE, NONE OF, NONE OF
THE STUFF THAT WAS COMING OUT OF SYRIA WOULD AFFECT YOU TO TRY
TO MAKE YOU DO SOMETHING EXCEPT THAT GROUP, AND THEY WERE THE
ONLY GROUP TO BE DOING SOME TYPE OF PROPAGANDA THAT WOULD
ACTUALLY MOVE ME TO DO THINGS.

1 03:35PM 2 03:35PM 3 03:35PM 03:35PM 03:35PM 03:35PM 03:35PM 7 03:35PM 8 03:35PM 9 03:35PM 10 03:35PM 11 03:35PM 12 03:35PM 13 03:36PM 14 03:36PM 15 03:36PM 16 17 03:36PM 18 03:36PM 03:36РМ 19 20 03:36PM 21 03:36PM 03:36РМ 22 03:36PM 23 03:36PM 24 03:37PM 25

AND IT'S WRONG AND THAT'S NOT WHAT I SUPPORT ANYMORE, AND
I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG I HAVE TO STAY IN JAIL FOR THE GOVERNMENT
OR FOR THE COMMUNITY TO BE COMFORTABLE AND SAYING, OKAY, I
THINK HE'S COOL. ALL RIGHT, HE'S NOT RADICALIZED ANYMORE.

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME BEING IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE

SYSTEM AND JUST GIVE ME A CHANCE TO TRY, JUST TRY ME. THAT'S

WHAT I'M ASKING. TRY ME AND SEE HOW I DO AND SEE HOW I

PROGRESS.

THE COURT: THANK YOU. YOUR HONOR.

MS. MITCHELL: YOUR HONOR, I WOULD JUST ADD THAT

I'VE HAD A LOT OF OPPORTUNITY TO SIT AND MEET WITH MR. NATSHEH,

AND I HAVE BEEN PERSONALLY AFFECTED BY THE LOSS OF THE LIFE OF

ONE OF MY FRIENDS DIRECTLY FROM ISIL IN A VERY PUBLIC AND

HORRIBLE WAY. ONE OF MY FRIENDS WAS ACTUALLY BEHEADED, AND IT

WAS IN THE YOUTUBE VIDEO THAT WENT EVERYWHERE.

WHEN I SIT AND I TALK TO MR. NATSHEH, I DON'T FEEL THAT HE IS CAPABLE OF DOING THOSE KINDS OF ACTS. WHEN I SIT AND I TALK TO HIM, I SEE A YOUNG KID WHO HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN A -- FOR A LONG TIME IN TRYING TO DO THINGS HE SEES FOR COMMUNITIES THAT ARE DISADVANTAGED. AND I SEE SOMEONE WHO WAS TRYING TO DO THAT AND IN A VERY WRONG WAY, BUT HE WAS TRYING TO DO THAT.

THE COURT: OF COURSE, THE -- JUST A FACT THAT HE -- MR. NATSHEH HAS TO UNDERSTAND IS THAT THIS NOW IS BIGGER THAN MR. NATSHEH. IT'S ALSO A DETERRENCE ISSUE, AND THERE ARE SADLY OTHERS OUT THERE WHO I HEARD WHAT MR. NATSHEH SAID, AND I

APPRECIATE IT, AND I BELIEVE IT'S HEARTFELT, BUT IT ISN'T, 1 03:37PM UNFORTUNATELY FOR HIM, JUST ABOUT HIM ANYMORE. 2 03:37PM SO THE PROCESS HAS TO SEND THE MESSAGE TO OTHERS WHO FIND 3 03:37PM 03:37PM 4 THEMSELVES LIKE HIM THAT IT'S NOT A LARK, IT'S NOT A FROLIC. YOU DO WHAT WAS DONE HERE BECAUSE FORTUNATELY HE WAS 03:37PM APPREHENDED. THE COURT COULD GO FURTHER. AND HOPEFULLY HE 03:37PM 03:37PM 7 WILL LEAD A PRODUCTIVE LIFE, AND HE WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO DO THAT. 03:37PM 8 BUT THE WORD HAS TO GO OUT TO OTHERS IN THE COMMUNITY THAT 03:37PM 9 03:37PM 10 WE WON'T SAY, OH, THAT'S OKAY BECAUSE IT'S NOT OKAY. SO IT IS BIGGER THAN JUST THIS DEFENDANT. 03:37PM 11 03:37PM 12 ANY LEGAL REASON WHY SENTENCE MAY NOT BE IMPOSED AT THIS 03:37PM 13 TIME? 03:37PM 14 MS. BECKER: YES, YOUR HONOR. 03:37РМ 15 MS. MITCHELL: NO, YOUR HONOR. THE COURT: MY TASK, AS YOU KNOW, IS TO APPLY THE 03:37PM 16 17 FACTORS THAT ARE SET FORTH UNDER 18 U.S.C. SECTION 3553(A), 03:38PM 18 THAT DIRECTS ME TO IMPOSE A SENTENCE THAT IS SUFFICIENT BUT NOT 03:38PM 03:38PM 19 GREATER THAN NECESSARY. 03:38PM 20 WE'VE HAD A LOT OF DISCUSSION HERE SO I DON'T HAVE TO GO 03:38PM 21 THROUGH ALL OF IT AGAIN, BUT NO DOUBT THIS IS A SERIOUS OFFENSE AND IT IS, HOWEVER ONE MAY WANT TO CHARACTERIZE IT AT THE END 03:38PM 22 03:38PM 23 OF THE DAY, ATTEMPTING TO PROVIDE AID TO A MURDEROUS TERRORIST 03:38PM 24 ORGANIZATION, AND FORTUNATELY BOTH FOR MR. NATSHEH AND FOR 03:38PM 25 EVERYONE ELSE HE WAS APPREHENDED BEFORE HE COULD JOIN THOSE

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EFFORTS. AND WE WON'T REALLY EVER KNOW WHAT MIGHT HAVE

TRANSPIRED, BUT WE CERTAINLY COULD HAVE FACED THE PROSPECT IN

PARTICULAR BECAUSE OF HIS CITIZENSHIP AND HE COULD HAVE COME

BACK TO THE UNITED STATES AT SOME POINT, AT A POINT WHERE THAT

COULD HAVE BEEN DANGEROUS.

AT THE SAME TIME, I DO RECOGNIZE THAT MR. NATSHEH IS AND WAS AT THE TIME OF THIS OFFENSE A TROUBLED YOUNG MAN. HE WAS BATTLING DEPRESSION AND ALIENATION, NOT THAT THAT'S AN EXCUSE, BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, HE DID DO THE BASIC ACTIVITY THAT WARRANTS THE CONVICTION BUT NOT MUCH MORE.

THERE WASN'T ANY TRAINING. THERE WEREN'T ANY WEAPONS
INVOLVED. THERE WASN'T ANY PROVIDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.
THERE DOESN'T APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN ANY DIRECT EFFORT TO RECRUIT
OTHERS. THE CONDUCT REALLY WAS RESTRICTED TO STARTING THE
PROCESS OF JOINING UP WITH A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION.

THE TERRORIST ENHANCEMENT AND THE STATUTORY MAXIMUM, I
THINK, ARE INTENDED FOR VERY DIFFERENT CASES THAN WE HAVE HERE.
I MEAN, IT'S AN IMPORTANT STATUTE DIRECTED TO IMPORTANT
ACTIVITY THAT IS VERY DANGEROUS TO THE UNITED STATES, BUT THIS
CASE IS REALLY MUCH MORE SIMILAR ALONG THE LINES OF THE CASES
THAT HAVE INVOLVED REALLY ONE END OF THE SPECTRUM OF ACTUAL
CONDUCT.

SO THOSE ARE THE CASES THAT I'M LOOKING TO, AND I THINK
THE RANGE OF THOSE CASES, AS I LOOKED AT THE COMPARABLES THAT
WERE PROVIDED TO ME, AND I KNOW MS. MITCHELL SAID THAT THERE

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WAS A RECENT PROBATIONARY SENTENCE, BUT IT APPEARED THAT MOST OF THE SENTENCES WERE IN MOST OF THE 36- TO 84-MONTH RANGE, AND I THINK SOMEWHERE IN THAT RANGE IS THE APPROPRIATE PLACE TO SET THIS.

SO I THINK -- AND I THINK A LONG TERM OF SUPERVISED

RELEASE IS IMPORTANT, AND WE HAD THAT DISCUSSION ABOUT PROGRAMS

THAT MAY ACTUALLY DIRECTLY GO TO SOME OF THESE CONCERNS. I'M

NOT SUGGESTING THAT MR. NATSHEH IS NOT BEING ENTIRELY SINCERE.

HE'S SEEN, AS HE SAID, THE ERRORS OF HIS WAY, AND HE'S NOT

GOING THE RADICAL ROUTE, BUT I STILL WISH WE HAD BETTER

PROGRAMS THAT WOULD ASSIST IN THAT DIRECTION.

SO I THINK IT IS A SIGNIFICANT SENTENCE TO IMPOSE A 60-MONTH SENTENCE. THAT'S A LONG TIME. AND I THINK FOR SOMEONE IN MR. NATSHEH'S POSITION, HE WOULD PROBABLY VIEW THAT AS A VERY LONG TIME. BUT I THINK IT DOES SEND THE MESSAGE TO THE COMMUNITY THAT THERE'S A COST ASSOCIATED WITH ENGAGING IN THIS ACTIVITY WHICH IN A DIFFERENT CONTEXT COULD HAVE BEEN EXTRAORDINARILY DANGEROUS AND SERIOUS. FORTUNATELY HERE IT WAS STOPPED BEFORE IT GOT TO THAT POINT.

SO I THINK A 60-MONTH SENTENCE FOLLOWED BY A LONG PERIOD OF SUPERVISED RELEASE WHERE HOPEFULLY AT THE POINT WHERE MR. NATSHEH IS BACK INTO THE COMMUNITY, HE COULD ACTUALLY GET ASSISTANCE FROM THE PROBATION AUTHORITIES IN TERMS OF GETTING BACK ON HIS FEET AND MOVING FORWARD WITH HIS LIFE, AND HE MAY NOT VIEW IT THIS WAY, BUT HE STILL WILL BE A YOUNG MAN WHEN

HE'S -- HE WILL BE IN HIS TWENTIES AND WHEN HE IS BACK IN THE 1 03:41PM 2 COMMUNITY. 03:41PM SO PURSUANT TO THE SENTENCING REFORM ACT OF THE 1984 IT IS 3 03:41PM THE JUDGMENT OF THE COURT THAT ISLAM NATSHEH IS HEREBY 03:42PM 4 COMMITTED TO THE CUSTODY OF THE BUREAU OF PRISONS TO BE 03:42PM IMPRISONED FOR A TERM OF 60 MONTHS. AND THAT OBVIOUSLY, SO 03:42PM 6 IT'S CLEAR, IT REPRESENTS A VARIANCE OF THE STATUTORY MAXIMUM. 03:42PM 7 THE COURT RECOMMENDS THAT THE DEFENDANT PARTICIPATE IN THE 03:42PM 8 BUREAU OF PRISONS RESIDENTIAL DRUG TREATMENT PROGRAM. 03:42PM 9 03:42PM 10 AND THAT RECOMMENDATION, I TAKE IT, WAS BASED ON THE USE OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES? 03:42PM 11 03:42PM 12 PROBATION OFFICER: HE HAD A SIGNIFICANT MARIJUANA 03:42PM 13 ADDICTION AT THE TIME. 03:42PM 14 THE COURT: ALL RIGHT. UPON RELEASE FROM 03:42PM 15 IMPRISONMENT, THE DEFENDANT SHALL BE PLACED ON SUPERVISED RELEASE FOR A PERIOD OF SIX YEARS. 03:42PM 16 03:42PM 17 WITHIN 72 HOURS OF RELEASE FROM CUSTODY FROM THE BUREAU OF PRISONS, THE DEFENDANT SHALL REPORT IN PERSON TO THE PROBATION 03:42PM 18 03:42PM 19 OFFICE IN THE DISTRICT TO WHICH THE DEFENDANT IS RELEASED. 03:42PM 20 WHILE ON SUPERVISED RELEASE, THE DEFENDANT SHALL NOT COMMIT ANOTHER FEDERAL, STATE OR LOCAL OR CRIME, SHALL COMPLY 03:42PM 21 03:42PM 22 WITH THE STANDARD CONDITIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ADOPTED BY THIS 03:43PM 23 COURT, AND SHALL REFRAIN FROM ANY UNLAWFUL USE OF THE CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE AND SUBMIT TO THE DRUG TEST WITHIN 15 DAYS 03:43PM 24 03:43PM 25 OF RELEASE ON SUPERVISED RELEASE AND TWO PERIODIC DRUG TESTS

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THEREAFTER AND SHALL COMPLY WITH THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS.

1. THE DEFENDANT SHALL PARTICIPATE IN A PROGRAM OF TESTING AND TREATMENT FOR DRUG ABUSE AS DIRECTED BY THE PROBATION OFFICER UNTIL SUCH TIME THAT THE DEFENDANT IS RELEASED FROM TREATMENT BY THE PROBATION OFFICER.

THE DEFENDANT IS TO PAY PART OR ALL OF THE COST OF THE TREATMENT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED THE COST OF TREATMENT AS DEEMED APPROPRIATE BY THE PROBATION OFFICER. PAYMENTS SHALL NEVER EXCEED THE TOTAL COST OF URINALYSIS AND COUNSELLING. THE ACTUAL COPAYMENT SHALL BE DETERMINED BY THE PROBATION OFFICER.

- 2. THE DEFENDANT SHALL PARTICIPATE IN A MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT PROGRAM AS DIRECTED BY THE PROBATION OFFICER. THE DEFENDANT IS TO PAY PART OR ALL OF THE COST OF THIS TREATMENT AT AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED THE COST OF TREATMENT AS DEEMED APPROPRIATE BY THE PROBATION OFFICER. PAYMENTS SHALL NEVER EXCEED THE TOTAL COST OF MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELLING. THE ACTUAL COPAYMENT SCHEDULE SHALL BE DETERMINED BY THE COUNSELLOR.
- 3. THE DEFENDANT -- AS DIRECTED BY THE PROBATION

  OFFICER, THE DEFENDANT SHALL ENROLL IN THE PROBATION OFFICER'S

  COMPUTER AND INTERNET MONITORING PROGRAM (CIMP) AND SHALL ABIDE

  BY THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CIMP PROGRAM AND THE ACCEPTABLE USE

  CONTRACT.
- 4. THE DEFENDANT SHALL CONSENT TO THE PROBATION
  OFFICER CONDUCTING A PERIODIC UNANNOUNCED EXAMINATION OF HIS

1 03:44PM 2 03:44PM 3 03:44PM 03:44PM 03:44PM 03:44PM 03:44PM 7 8 03:44PM 03:44PM 9 03:44PM 10 03:44PM 11 03:44PM 12 03:44PM 13 03:44PM 14 03:44PM 15 03:45PM 16 03:45PM 17 03:45PM 18 03:45PM 19 03:45PM 20 03:45PM 21 03:45PM 22 03:45PM 23 03:45PM 24 03:45PM 25

COMPUTER EQUIPMENT. I NOTE, BY THE WAY, THERE WERE SOME
OBJECTIONS BY THE DEFENSE TO CERTAIN OF THESE CONDITIONS, ONE
WITH RESPECT TO FINANCIAL INFORMATION AND THE LIKE.

I'VE READ THE REPLY THAT THE GOVERNMENT PROVIDED. I THINK
THE GOVERNMENT HAS CONVINCED ME THAT THESE ARE APPROPRIATE
CONDITIONS SO I WILL OVERRULE THOSE OBJECTIONS.

SO GOING BACK TO NUMBER 4. THE DEFENDANT SHALL CONSENT TO THE PROBATION OFFICER CONDUCTING PERIODIC UNANNOUNCED EXAMINATIONS OF HIS COMPUTER EQUIPMENT WHICH MAY INCLUDE RETRIEVAL AND COPYING OF ALL DATA FROM HIS COMPUTERS AND ANY PERIPHERAL DEVICE TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THIS CONDITION, AND/OR REMOVAL OF ANY SUCH EQUIPMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING MORE THOROUGH INSPECTION. THE DEFENDANT SHALL ALSO CONSENT TO THE INSTALLATION OF THE HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE AS DIRECTED BY THE PROBATION OFFICER TO MONITOR THE DEFENDANT'S INTERNET USE.

- 5. THE DEFENDANT SHALL PAY ANY SPECIAL ASSESSMENT THAT IS IMPOSED BY THIS JUDGMENT AND THAT REMAINS UNPAID AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE TERM OF SUPERVISED RELEASE.
- 6. THE DEFENDANT SHALL PROVIDE THE PROBATION OFFICER
  WITH ACCESS TO ANY FINANCIAL INFORMATION, INCLUDING TAX
  RETURNS, AND SHALL AUTHORIZE THE PROBATION OFFICER TO CONDUCT
  CREDIT CHECKS AND OBTAIN COPIES OF THE CREDIT RETURNS.

THE DEFENDANT SHALL AT ALL TIMES EITHER HAVE FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT, FULL-TIME TRAINING FOR EMPLOYMENT, FULL-TIME JOB

1 03:45PM 2 03:45PM 3 03:45PM 03:45PM 4 03:45PM 03:45PM 03:45PM 7 8 03:45PM 03:45PM 9 03:45PM 10 03:45PM 11 03:45PM 12 03:45PM 13 03:46PM 14 03:46PM 15 03:46PM 16 17 03:46PM 18 03:46PM 03:46PM 19 03:46PM 20 03:46PM 21 03:46PM 22 03:46PM 23 03:46PM 24 03:46PM 25

SEARCH, ENROLLED IN COLLEGE OR SOME COMBINATION THEREOF UNLESS OTHERWISE EXCUSED BY THE PROBATION OFFICER.

- 8. THE DEFENDANT SHALL SUBMIT HIS PERSON, RESIDENCE,
  OFFICE, VEHICLE OR ANY PROPERTY UNDER HIS CONTROL TO A SEARCH.
  SUCH A SEARCH WILL BE CONDUCTED BY A UNITED STATES PROBATION
  OFFICER AT A REASONABLE TIME AND IN A REASONABLE MANNER BASED
  UPON A REASONABLE SUSPICION OF CONTRABAND OR EVIDENCE OF A
  VIOLATION OF A CONDITION OF RELEASE. FAILURE TO SUBMIT TO SUCH
  A SEARCH WILL BE GROUNDS FOR REVOCATION. THE DEFENDANT SHALL
  WARN ANY RESIDENTS THAT THE PREMISES MAY BE SUBJECT TO
  SEARCHES.
- 9. THE DEFENDANT SHALL NOT ASSOCIATE WITH ANY MEMBER
  OF THE ISLAMIC STATE OF IRAQ, AL SHAM, ISIS, THE ISLAMIC STATE
  OF IRAQ AND SYRIA -- I'M NOT SURE I CAN PRONOUNCE THIS -AD-DAWLA AL-ISLAMIYYA F AL-'IRAQ WA-SH-SHAM, DAESH, DAWLA AL
  ISLAMIYA, AND AL-FURQUAN ESTABLISHMENT FOR MEDIA PRODUCTION.

THE DEFENDANT SHALL HAVE NO CONNECTION WHATSOEVER WITH THESE TERRORIST GROUPS OR ANY OTHER TERRORIST GROUP OR GANG.

IF HE IS FOUND TO BE IN THE COMPANY OF SUCH INDIVIDUALS OR WEARING THE CLOTHING, COLORS OR INSIGNIA -- I KNOW THE DEFENDANTS POINTED OUT THEY DON'T HAVE A GANG COLOR AND THE LIKE AND THAT'S A REASONABLE POINT, BUT TO THE EXTENT THAT THERE IS ANY KIND OF LOGO OR INDICIA OF THE ABOVE NOTED TERRORIST GROUPS SHOULD THEY DEVELOP SUCH, THE COURT WILL PRESUME THAT THE ASSOCIATION WAS FOR THE PURPOSE OF

PARTICIPATING IN THE ACTIVITY OF THOSE GROUPS. 1 03:46PM 10. THE DEFENDANT SHALL COOPERATE IN THE COLLECTION OF 03:46PM 2 DNA AS DIRECTED BY THE PROBATION OFFICER. 03:47PM 3 03:47PM 4 11. THE DEFENDANT SHALL NOT OWN OR POSSESS ANY FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, DESTRUCTIVE DEVICES OR OTHER DANGEROUS 03:47PM 5 03:47PM 6 WEAPONS. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT THE DEFENDANT SHALL PAY TO THE 03:47PM 7 03:47PM 8 UNITED STATES A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OF \$100 AND PAYMENT SHALL BE MADE TO THE CLERK OF THE U.S. DISTRICT COURT, 450 GOLDEN GATE 03:47PM 9 03:47PM 10 AVENUE, BOX 36060, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102. DURING IMPRISONMENT, PAYMENT OF CRIMINAL MONETARY 03:47PM 11 03:47PM 12 PENALTIES ARE DUE AT A RATE NOT LESS THAN \$25 PER QUARTER AND 03:47PM 13 PAYMENT SHALL BE THROUGH THE BUREAU OF PRISONS INMATE FINANCIAL 03:47PM 14 RESPONSIBILITY PROGRAM. 03:47PM 15 THE COURT FINDS THE DEFENDANT DOES NOT HAVE THE ABILITY TO PAY A FINE AND ORDERS THAT THE FINE BE WAIVED. 03:47PM 16 03:47PM 17 MS. MITCHELL, DO YOU HAVE ANY REQUESTS IN TERMS OF 03:47PM 18 DESIGNATION OR --03:47PM 19 MS. MITCHELL: WE WOULD REQUEST CALIFORNIA, IF 03:47PM 20 POSSIBLE, A FACILITY IN CALIFORNIA, IF POSSIBLE. 03:47PM 21 FCI MENDOTA WOULD BE THE ONE THAT IS CLOSEST TO HIS FAMILY 03:47PM 22 HERE. 03:47PM 23 THE COURT: AND DO YOU WANT THAT SPECIFIC ONE? MS. MITCHELL: YES, YOUR HONOR. 03:47PM 24 03:47PM 25 THE COURT: ALL RIGHT. I'LL MAKE THAT

03:47PM	1	RECOMMENDATION AND IF NOT THAT FACILITY, A CALIFORNIA FACILITY.
03:48PM	2	AND, AGAIN, TO THE EXTENT THAT THERE IS ANY PROGRAMS,
03:48PM	3	CERTAINLY ONES AT THE SUPERVISED RELEASE PHASE, I ENCOURAGE THE
03:48PM	4	PROBATION OFFICER TO EXPLORE THAT AS YOU SET FORTH AS YOU
03:48PM	5	INDICATED YOU WOULD AND NOT JUST FOR MR. NATSHEH BUT IN
03:48PM	6	GENERAL.
03:48PM	7	MR. NATSHEH, YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO APPEAL. YOUR SENTENCE
03:48PM	8	YOU ENTERED INTO IS WHAT IS CALLED AN OPEN PLEA AND SO YOU DO
03:48PM	9	HAVE A RIGHT TO APPEAL.
03:48PM	10	IN THE EVENT THAT YOU ELECT TO APPEAL, YOU WOULD NEED TO
03:48PM	11	DO THAT WITHIN 14 DAYS OF THE ENTRANCE OF THIS JUDGMENT.
03:48PM	12	DO YOU UNDERSTAND THAT?
03:48PM	13	THE DEFENDANT: YES, SIR.
03:48PM	14	THE COURT: OKAY. ANYTHING FURTHER?
03:48PM	15	MS. BECKER: NO, YOUR HONOR.
03:48PM	16	MS. MITCHELL: NO, YOUR HONOR.
03:48PM	17	MS. BECKER: THANK YOU. THANK YOU.
03:49PM	18	(COURT CONCLUDED AT 3:49 P.M.)
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3	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER
4	
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6	
7	I, THE UNDERSIGNED OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER OF THE UNITED
8	STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA,
9	280 SOUTH FIRST STREET, SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA, DO HEREBY
10	CERTIFY:
11	THAT THE FOREGOING TRANSCRIPT, CERTIFICATE INCLUSIVE, IS
12	A CORRECT TRANSCRIPT FROM THE RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS IN THE
13	ABOVE-ENTITLED MATTER.
14	Orene Rodriguez
15	Chark wonder
16	IRENE RODRIGUEZ, CSR, RMR, CRR CERTIFICATE NUMBER 8074
17	
18	DATED: JULY 13, 2017
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